

WASHINGTON, DC - Insisting that "Congress must act now," Representative Jim Costa (D-Fresno) gave remarks on the House Floor today in support of proposed legislation intended to deter identity theft.

Rep. Costa was prompted to make his remarks as a result of the continuing revelations that the personal information of 26.5 million American Veterans and active military personnel had been stolen from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Standing in support of our country's women and men in uniform, Costa stated, "This body and the American public should be outraged at the continuing reports of theft of personal information of America's finest."

"The consequences of the VA's incompetence should not rest on the backs of our Nation's men and women in uniform," the Fresno lawmaker declared. In support of this effort, Costa noted, "he is working with my colleagues to demand accountability and full disclosure by the VA. Costa is also a co-sponsor of legislation to provide veterans with credit monitoring services."

Costa has also joined with other House members to make certain that, "Not one penny of the funding to pay for the VA's debacle is diverted from veteran's healthcare or other sorely

needed services."

Insisting that "This House must demand more of the VA than its unacceptable response of hand wringing and wrist slapping," Costa closed by reminding the legislature that, "We owe our veterans and active military personnel nothing less."

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